

Pines Pruned to Imperial-Style by Visiting Experts



Each November, the pines in the garden receive the royal treatment—a pruning in a formal, refined method practiced by the Imperial Gardens in Kyoto, to be exact. Led by Masa Mizuno, who's been a consultant to the Seattle Japanese Garden since the early 90s, a crew of four styled the pines to keep the trees tight and to display their true form.

"Proportions are very important," said Mizuno, addressing a group of docents in a Q&A session on November 17. "With everything in human scale, you can experience what is in Zen called 'nothingness', complete relaxation, when you stroll through this Japanese Garden."

Staff gardeners, following Mizuno's advice, will spend a portion of the winter on restoration projects that restore the garden in original designer Juki Iida's tradition.

Final Weekend Made Magical by Snow

The light snow that blanketed the city in the early morning hours of November 28 seemed to freeze in place as the temperatures dipped below 30F during the day. It gave the visitors who braved the cold a rare glimpse of the garden in its winter form—frost covered moss, icy sheen on the pond, bright berries hanging from bare branches. It was a unique and fitting public farewell to the visiting season of 2014. The annual seasonal closure began on Dec. 1.



Many restoration projects take place during the winter closure. To follow our progress as we near the spring opening, like us on Facebook! Photo by Rumi Tsuchihashi

GARDEN CALENDAR

Please enjoy these community events.

Arboretum Holiday Sale

Wednesday, Dec. 3, 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Washington Park Arboretum

arboretumfoundation.org

Meet the author of *Pacific Northwest Garden Tour*—a beautiful new book featuring Seattle Japanese Garden—from 6 -7:30 p.m.

Conservatory Opening Day

Sunday, Dec. 6, 10:00 a.m.

Volunteer Park Conservatory

volunteerparkconservatory.org

Experience holiday magic as the conservatory re-opens after 8 long months of renovation.